



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT:	Zhou et al.	GROUP:	1635
SERIAL NO.:	09/283,431	EXAMINER:	Lacourciere, K.
DOCKET NO.:	475.08.423		
FILING DATE:	April 1, 1999		
TITLE	Mixed Backbone Oligonucleotides Containing POPS Blocks to Obtain Reduced Phosphorothioate Content		

**BOX CPA**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING (37 C.F.R. § 1.10)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" Service under 37 CFR 1.110 on March 27, 2001 and is addressed to : **BOX CPA**, Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231

EL540702164US  
"Express Mail Label No."

By: 

Tae H. Kim

TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Dear Sir:

Enclosed herewith for filing in the above referenced patent application are the following documents:

1. Filing of Continued Prosecution Application Under 37 C.F.R. §1.53(d);
2. Preliminary Amendment;
3. Certificate of Express Mailing; and
4. Return Postcard.



March 27, 2001  
60 State Street  
Boston, MA 02109  
(617) 526-6000  
(617) 526-5000 (fax)

Respectfully submitted,  
HALE AND DORR LLP

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "W.A. Keown".

Wayne A. Keown, Ph.D.  
Registration No. 33,923  
Attorney for Applicants



03-28-01

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**FILING OF CONTINUED PROSECUTION APPLICATION**  
**UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d)**

Sir:

This is a request for filing of a Continued Prosecution Application under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d) for U.S. Serial No. 09/283,431, filed on April 1, 1999 and entitled, "Mixed Backbone Oligonucleotides Containing POPS Blocks to Obtain Reduced Phosphorothioate Content" in which no payment of issue fee, abandonment of, or termination of proceedings has occurred. The inventors, Wen-Qiang Zhou and Sudhir Agrawal, remain the same. No inventors are to be added or deleted in the CPA application.

Applicant claimed Small Entity in the prior nonprovisional parent application and such status is still proper and desired.

04/06/2001 GTEFFERA 00000113 080219 09283431

01 FC:231	355.00 CH
02 FC:215	55.00 CH

This patent application is being submitted under 37 C.F.R. §1.53(d) and 35 U.S.C. §111, with fee. Please be advised that the United States Patent and Trademark Office is authorized to charge the filing fee(CPA) of \$355.00 pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.16 (a) to our Deposit Account No. 08-0219. The fees reflect the Applicants' Small Entity status.

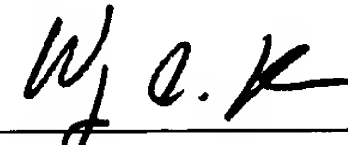
Applicants request an one-month extension of time pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a), up to and including March 27, 2001 from the Appeal Brief due date of February 27, 2001. Please charge our Deposit Account No. 08-0219 the required fee of \$55.00 pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.17(a)(1). The fees reflect the Applicants' Small Entity status.

No additional fees are believed to be due in connection with this filing. However, please charge any underpayments or credit any overpayments to our Deposit Account No. 08-0219.

If there are any questions, please call the undersigned at the telephone number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

HALE AND DORR LLP



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Wayne A. Keown. Ph.D.  
Registration No. 33,923  
Attorney for Applicants

March 27, 2001  
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Boston, MA 02109  
(617) 526-6000  
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**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Dear Sir:

Please amend the above-referenced patent application before substantive examination as follows: